

Message Text

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72

ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

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S E C R E T BLANTYRE 1472

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MI, ZA, TZ, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS

REFS: A. BLANTYRE 1065; B. BLANTYRE 1410

1. DURING MEETING OCT 24 PRESIDENT BANDA BRIEFED ME ABOUT TWO VISITS OF JORGE JARDIM TO LUSAKA. IN EACH CASE JARDIM ACCOMPANIED BY JAIME DE SOUSA, HONORARY PORTUGUESE CONSUL IN BLANTYRE. PRESIDENT'S ACCOUNT BASED UPON REPORTS GIVEN HIM BY JARDIM IMMEDIATELY AFTER VISITS. FIRST VISIT AT END OF JULY (REFTEL A) WAS PROLONGED EXTRA DAY AT REQUEST OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA WITH WHOM JARDIM DINED TWICE. OBTAINABLE PURPOSE WAS DISCUSSION OF ZAMBIAN USE OF PORT OF NACALA, BUT KAUNDA TOOK INITIATIVE IN RAISING QUESTION OF FRELIMO. KAUNDA WARNED JARDIM THAT IF WORD SPREAD THAT THEY DISCUSSED FRELIMO HE WOULD DENY THIS FLATLY.

2. ACCORDING TO KAUNDA, MARCEL DOS SANTOS ASKED HIM TO ARRANGE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FRELIMO AND PORTUGUESE. JARDIM REPLIED:

A) MOZAMBIQUENS WOULD BE GLAD TO TALK WITH MEMBERS OF FRELIMO
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IF THEY RETURNED TO PROVINCE UNARMED AS MOZAMBIQUENS. THEY WOULD NOT TALK WITH FRELIMO AS ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF FRELIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE COULD PARTICIPATE IN TALKS AS INDIVIDUALS;

B) TALKS AND ANY AGREEMENT MUST BE BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUENS AND FRELIMO REPRESENTATIVES NOT BETWEEN LISBON AND FRELIMO REPRESENTATIVES. LISBON REPRESENTATIVE COULD SIT IN AS OBSERVER.

3. PRESIDENT BANDA COMMENTED TALKS CONDUCTED IN THIS MANNER WOULD FIT INCLINATIONS OF PRIME MINISTER CAETANO WHO WAS DESIROUS REACHING ACCOMMODATION OF PROVINCES. THEY WOULD BE OPPOSED BY HARDLINERS WITH PORTUGUESE HIERARCHY. PRESIDENT ALLEGED THAT CAETANO HAS CALLED ELECTIONS PARTLY IN ORDER TO RID HIMSELF OF HARDLINERS INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY NOGUEIRA. JARDIM THOUGHT HE WOULD SUCCEED IN THIS OBJECTIVE.

4. IN OCTOBER SHOOTING INCIDENT OCCURRED AT LUANGWA RIVER BETWEEN PORTUGUESE AND ZAMBIAN TROOPS. PORTUGUESE WERE SHOOTING AT HIPPOS IN RIVER AND WHEN SOME OF SHOTS WENT INTO ZAMBIA, ZAMBIAIS RETURNED FIRE. NO ONE WAS HURT. JARDIM IMMEDIATELY WENT TO LUSAKA (REFTEL B) AND REPORTED ON TRIP TO PRESIDENT BANDA OCT 13. AT KAUNDA'S INVITATION HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DAUGHTER AND AGAIN DINED WITH KAUNDA. KAUNDA SAID HE WAS GLAD JARDIM CAME; THAT HE SHOULD ALWAYS DO SO WHEN INCIDENT OCCURRED IN ORDER THAT IT MIGHT BE RESOLVED QUICKLY; LUANGWA INCIDENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED CLOSED.

5. KAUNDA AND JARDIM AGAIN DISCUSSED TALKS WITH FRELIMO. JARDIM REPEATED POSITION HE HAD PREVIOUSLY GIVEN. KAUNDA EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN POINT B WHICH HE HAD NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD BEFORE. HE ASKED JARDIM TO RETURN SHORTLY FOR ANOTHER MEETING. JARDIM ANSWERED THAT HE WAS LEAVING FOR LISBON OCT 29 AND WOULD NOT BE BACK IN MOZAMBIQUE UNTIL END OF DECEMBER OR EARLY JANUARY. PRESIDENT BANDA INTERPRETED KAUNDA'S REQUEST TO MEAN KAUNDA INTENDED GET IN TOUCH WITH FRELIMO TO DETERMINE HOW TO PROCEED. AGAIN ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT BANDA, KAUNDA SEEMED MUCH IMPRESSED WITH JARDIM AND SAID HE DID NOT REALIZE THERE WERE PORTUGUESE OF THIS TYPE WITH WHOM HE COULD TALK.

6. COMMENT: ABOVE ACCOUNT LEAVES MANY GAPS BUT TIES IN WITH PREVIOUS REPORTS FROM PRESIDENT BANDA ABOUT JARDIM'S INTEREST IN
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DEVELOPING AUTONOMOUS STRUCTURE IN MOZAMBIQUE AND IN WORKING WITH AFRICANS. IT ALSO FITS IN WITH ROLE WE KNOW JARDIM HAS PLAYED IN PAST AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN PORTUGUESE AND AFRICANS. WE HAVE NO WAY TO ASSESS AUTHORITY WITH WHICH JARDIM ACTUALLY SPEAKS OR EXTENT TO WHICH CAETANO WOULD ACQUIESCE IN TALKS BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUENS AND FRELIMO REPRESENTATIVES. AT LEAST IT APPEARS THAT DIRECT LINE OF COMMUNICATIONS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN KAUNDA AND AN INFLUENTIAL PORTUGUESE. RESULTING "DIALOGUE" SHOULD ASSIST IN RESOLVING ANY FUTURE FRONTIER INCIDENTS AND HOPEFULLY COULD LEAD TO BROADER TALKS DEALING WITH INSURGENCY.
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